THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Until the Sugger of 1949, communications were taught as a part of tactical problems at the General Staff College; about 10% of the time scheduled for a tactical problem was devoted to the problem of communication. Instruction concerned the tactical use of communications only. Methods of communications applied to variour tactical situations included radio, telephone, teletype, and the use of liaison officers. Emphasis was put on commanders' decisions to use the most expedient means in a given tactical situation. Calculations of communication requirements, elaboration of communication orders, and other technical procedures were taught. Each problem, as a rule, included the solution of:

Communication with the next higher command;

Communication with the next lower unit;

Communication with supporting and attached units;

Communication with adjacent units;

Communication with mean services;

Communication with the Air Force.

2. Communications loctures were delivered by artillery officers who had taken signal courses at the Artillery Officers School in the former Military Academy at Hranice. At the Infantry Officers School in Lipnik and Beeven, communications léctures were given by instructors belonging to the Signal Corps. About 20 lessons were scheduled for each school year; they dealt with communications within infantry units up to the sommany level. Practical training was performed only with telephones and radios.

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3. At the end of 1946, radio sets of Soviet origin were used in tanks at the Vysoke Myto school and sets of English origin at the Milovice school.

4. It was assumed in training that infantry regiments would have the following communications equipment:

Three radio sets of shorter range for communication with battalion;

One or two spare radio sets.

Battalions would have one radio set for communication with the regiment, and short range sets for communication with companies were to be introduced. Telephone apparatus and switchboards were of German origin and there was a sufficient number of them to cover the regimental lines of communication. In addition to the items given above there were rockets, flags, and colored smoke for visual communication. It was assumed that telegraphy and teletypes would not be available for use by an infantry regiment.

- 5. Communications between ground forces and supporting air force of the Czech military forces was established at the higher levels of command with the help of air force liaison officers, who were equipped with radio sets. Apart from this, at each divisional Hq, there was a signaling station for visual communications with aircraft. These stations communicated to the aircraft pre-determined messages with the help of visual signals (rectangles, squares, circles, etc) which were displayed at a visible site near the Hq. The front line units also used various visual signals to communicate with aircraft. Such signals were linen markers, colored smoke, illuminating shells, colored rockets and various improvised means, such as fires.
- 6. Sometimes an infantry regiment was accompanied by a forward liaison officer from the air force who advanced close behind the fighting line and directed individual aircraft to targets. This forward liaison officer had at his disposal a truck equipped with radio and a crew of approximately six persons. His task was not only to direct aircraft, but to maintain close liaison between the assault units and the supporting air force.
- 7. For marking the front line, the infantry used linen markers which were about five m long and one and one-half m wide, white on one side (for use in summer) and red on the other side (for use in winter). Each infantry platoon was equipped with one of these markers. During attack, the markers were displayed on the ground parallel to the front line. During a retreat or march they were carried by four men on the designated side of the marching solumns. During darkness the front line was marked by special colored matches or small fires in shallow pits which could not be seen by the enemy. The ground target was indicated to the aircraft by the infantry by colored rockets, illustrating shells or colored grantder fired at the target. Sometimes the target was shown by displaying markers forming an arrow pointing at the target; the distance was denoted by other markers put vertically over the body of the arrow.

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